



SCHOOL OF THE SOLDIER.

(Continued.)

To Unsling and Sling Knapsacks.

Arms being stacked: 1. *Unsling*, 2. *KNAPSACK*. At the command *unsling*, the front rank moves back one step (Par. 39) to clear the stacks, and faces about; the rear rank at the same time moves back three steps; all the men unhook the right-hand strap.

At the command *knapsack*, remove the knapsacks, the four men whose pieces are in the same stack leaning their knapsacks, flaps outward, one against another in the form of a square.

The knapsacks of the guides and file closers are placed each against the nearest pile.

1. *Sling*, 2. *KNAPSACK*. At the command *sling*, each man takes his knapsack and, standing erect, holds it by the straps, the flap next to the knees; at the command *knapsack*, places the knapsack on the back, the front rank facing about and stepping up to the stacks, the rear rank closing to facing distance.

NOTE.—The word *knapsack* will be used in the commands for all patterns of packs.

114. The movements are explained for double rank, with arms; in the instruction of recruits, however, the movements are first executed in single rank, without arms; the instruction is given as herein prescribed by substituting the word *man* for *file* in the commands and explanations, and omitting reference to the rear rank and the position of the piece.

115. The recruits are divided into groups of about seven men, to represent squads, each under the command of a corporal, who is the instructor (Par. 12).

The object is to give the corporal the confidence and experience necessary to qualify him as squad leader, while at the same time teaching the recruits the movements in close and extended order.

The corporal, as squad leader, is posted as the left man in the front rank (See Par. 9). The rear rank man, who covers the corporal, steps into the front rank whenever the latter leaves his place; this file remains blank until the corporal resumes his place in ranks.

116. When the guide is announced in the command, the man on the designated flank conducts the march, but in no other respect acts as guide.

To accustom the recruits to their duties in all positions their places will frequently be changed.

117. A double rank, file faced to a flank is called a column of files (See also Par. 215).

118. In line the distance between ranks, from back to breast, is facing distance; on rough ground and when marching in double time it is increased to thirty-six inches; the rear rank closes to facing distance upon halting.

When the knapsack is worn the distance is increased by the depth of the knapsack.

To Size and Form the Squad.

119. Being in single rank at the order, the instructor faces the squad to the right, arranges the men according to height, tallest man in front, and commands: 1. *In two ranks form squad*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *FRONT*.

At the command *march*, the first man faces to the left, the second man places himself in the rear rank covering the first; both place the left hand above the hip (Par. 19); the other men close in quick time, and form alternately in front and rear rank, as explained for the first two, each man facing to the left upon arriving at his proper place, then dressing to the right.

All the men having formed, the instructor commands: *FRONT*. The men turn the head and eyes to the front and drop the left hand by the side.

The squad having been sized, the men are cautioned to take the same relative positions when the squad is formed thereafter.

120. To form the squad, the corporal places himself in front of where the center is to be formed, makes the signal for the assembly, or commands: *FALL IN*.

The men assemble in their proper places in double rank, arms at the order.

Alignments.

121. The alignments are first taught by requiring the recruits to align themselves, man by man, upon two files established as a base.

Being at the carry or order: 1. *Two files from the right (or left) dress to the front*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *FRONT*, 4. *FRONT*.

At the command *march*, the first two files on the right march three paces to the front, halt, execute *eyes right*, and place the left hand above the hip (Par. 19); the instructor aligns them, sees that the rear rank men cover their file leaders, and then causes the remaining files to move up successively on this alignment, each by the command *next*.

At the command *next*, the next file marches three paces to the front, each man shortening the last step so as to find himself about six inches in rear of the new alignment, which must never be passed; he then executes *eyes right*, places the left hand above the hip, and taking steps of two or three inches, moves up, placing his arm lightly against the elbow of the man on his right, so that his eyes and shoulders shall be in line with those of the men on his right.

The instructor sees that each man observes the principles of the alignment, and when the last file has arrived on the line, verifies the alignment of both ranks by the right flank, and orders up or back such men as may be in rear or in advance of the line; only the men designated move.

At the command *front*, given when the ranks are aligned, the men cast their eyes to the front and drop the left hand; all movement in the ranks must then cease.

In dressing to the left, each man places himself so that his left elbow touches lightly the arm of the man on his left.

122. In the first drills the basis of the alignment is established parallel to the front of the squad, and afterward in oblique directions.

In order to habituate the recruit to his interval in line, the left hand is placed above the hip in all alignments in the School of the Soldier.

123. The recruits having learned to align themselves, man by man, the instructor establishes the base files and aligns the squad by the commands: 1. *Right (or Left)*, 2. *DRESS*, 3. *FRONT*.

At the command *dress*, all the men except the base files move forward and dress up to the line, as previously explained.

The rear rank men cover in file, at facing distance, and cast their eyes to the right.

The instructor verifies the alignment and gives the command: *FRONT*. All the men then turn the head and eyes to the front and drop the left hand.

124. Alignments to the rear are executed on the same principles: 1. *Right (or Left) backward*, 2. *DRESS*, 3. *FRONT*.

The men step back, halt a little in rear of the line of the base files, and immediately dress up by steps of two or three inches.

125. To execute the alignments, using the side step, the instructor establishes the base files a few paces to the right or left of the squad and commands: 1. *Right (or Left) step*, 2. *Right (or Left)*, 3. *DRESS*, 4. *FRONT*.

At the command *dress*, the men execute the side step, close toward the base files, and dress as already explained.

126. When the squad dresses quickly and well, the guide alone is first established.

In dressing, the first two or three files are accurately aligned as quickly as possible, to afford a base for the rest of the squad.

MARCHING.

To March in Line.

127. Being in line at a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide right (or left)*, 3. *MARCH*.

The men step off, the guide marching straight to the front; the rear rank men cover their file leaders and follow them at facing distance.

The instructor sees that the men preserve the interval toward the side of the guide; that they yield to pressure from that side and resist pressure from the opposite direction; that by slightly shortening or lengthening the step they gradually recover the alignment, and by slightly opening up or closing in they gradually recover the interval, if lost; that while habitually keeping the head to the front, they may occasionally glance toward the side of the guide to assure themselves of the alignment and interval, but that the head is turned as little as possible for this purpose.

To change the guide: *Guide left (or right)*.

128. If the men lose step, the instructor commands: *STEP*. The men glance toward the side of the guide, retake the step, and cast their eyes to the front.

To March Backward.

129. Being at a halt: 1. *Backward*, 2. *Guide right (or left)*, 3. *MARCH*.

At the command *march*, given as the right foot strikes the ground, advance and plant the left foot; then turn on the balls of both feet, face to the right about, and immediately step off with the left foot.

If marching in double time, turn to the right about, taking four short steps in place, keeping the cadence, and then step off with the left foot.

To March to the Rear.

130. Being in march: 1. *To the Rear*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Guide right (or left)*.

At the command *march*, given as the right foot strikes the ground, advance and plant the left foot; then turn on the balls of both feet, face to the right about, and immediately step off with the left foot.

If marching in double time, turn to the right about, taking four short steps in place, keeping the cadence, and then step off with the left foot.

To March by the Flank, in Column of Files.

131. Being in line at a halt: 1. *Right (or left)*, 2. *FACE*, 3. *Forward*, 4. *MARCH*.

If marching: 1. *By the right (or left) flank*, 2. *MARCH*.

At the command *march*, given as the right foot strikes the ground, advance and plant the left foot, then face to the right in marching and step off in the new direction with the right foot.

In each file the front rank man is the guide; the men cover in file and keep closed to facing distance.

So halt the column of files: 1. *Squad*, 2. *HALT*; and to face it to the front: 3. *Left (or Right)*, 4. *FACE*.

Marching in Column of Files, to March in Line.

132. 1. *By the right (or left) flank*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Guide right (or left)*.

To Change Direction in Column of Files.

133. Being in march: 1. *Column right (or left)*; or, 1. *Column half-right (or half-left)*, 2. *MARCH*.

The leading file wheels to the right, the pivot man shortening two or three steps and moving over a quarter or an eighth of a circle whose radius is about eighteen inches; the other files follow the first wheel on the same ground.

If at a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Column right (or left)*, 3. *MARCH*; or, 2. *Column half-right (or half-left)*, 3. *MARCH*.

The Oblique March.

134. For the instruction of recruits, the squad being correctly aligned, the instructor will face the squad half-right or half-left, point out to the men their relative positions, and explain that these are to be maintained in the oblique march.

135. Being in line at a halt or marching: 1. *Right (or left) oblique*, 2. *MARCH*.

Each man half-faces to the right, at the same time stepping off in the new direction. He preserves his relative position, keeping his shoulders parallel to those of the man next on his right, and so regulates his step as to make the head of this man conceal the heads of the other men in the rank; the ranks remain parallel to their original front.

The rear rank conforms to the foregoing, each man marching so as to cover his file leader upon resuming the original direction.

To resume the original direction: 1. *Forward*, 2. *MARCH*.

The men half-face to the left in marching and then move straight to the front.

If marking time while obliquing, the oblique march is resumed by the commands: 1. *Oblique*, 2. *MARCH*.

The short step will not be used in the oblique march.

136. In the oblique march, the guide is always, without indication, on the side toward which the oblique is made. On resuming the direct march, the guide is, without indication, on the side it was previous to the oblique.

If the oblique be executed from a halt, the guide is announced on taking the direct march in line.

These rules are general.

137. The column of files obliques by the same commands and means.

To March in Double Time.

138. Being in line at a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide right (or left)*, 3. *Double time*, 4. *MARCH*.

To Pass from Quick to Double Time and the Reverse.

139. *Double time*, 2. *MARCH*.

At the command *march*, given as the left foot strikes the ground, advance the right foot in quick time, and step off with the left foot in double time.

To resume quick time: 1. *Quick time*, 2. *MARCH*.

At the command *march*, given as either foot is coming to the ground, the squad resumes quick time.

TURNINGS.

To Turn and Halt.

140. Marching in line: 1. *Squad right (or left)*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *FRONT*.

At the command *march*, the right file halts and the front rank man or pivot faces to the right; the other files half-face to the right in marching, and without changing the length or cadence of the step, place themselves successively upon the alignment established by the right file; all dress to the right, without command. The instructor verifies the alignment from the pivot flank and commands: *FRONT*.

The rear rank men conform to the movements of their file leaders.

If at a halt, the movement is executed in the same manner; if at the order and the movement is executed in quick time, the pieces are held at the trail while in motion.

Squad half-right (or half-left) is executed in the same manner, except that the pivot makes a half face to the right.

To Turn and Advance.

141. Marching in line: 1. *Right (or Left) turn*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Forward*, 4. *MARCH*, 5. *Guide right (or left)*.

At the second command, the front rank man on the right, who is the guide, marches by the right flank, taking the short step without changing the cadence; the other men half-face to the right in marching, and moving by the short line, successively place themselves on the new line, when they take the short step.

The rear rank men conform to the movements of their file leaders. When the last man has arrived on the new line, the fourth command is given, when all resume the full step.

During the turn, the guide is, without command, on the pivot flank. The guide is announced on resuming the full step.

If at a halt, the movement is similarly executed, and in quick time, unless the command *double time* be given.

Right (or Left) half turn is executed in the same manner, except that the guide makes a half face to the right.

Should the command *halt* be given during the execution of the movement, those men on the new line halt; the others halt on arriving on the line; all dress to the right without command.

The instructor verifies the alignment from the pivot flank and commands: *FRONT*.

Firings.

142. The post of the instructor is three paces in rear of the squad, but in actual firing he places himself where he can best make himself heard and at the same time observe the effect of the fire; the objective should be in plain view and so designated as to be easily distinguished by all.

143. The commands for firing are the same whether the squad be standing, kneeling, or lying down. The commands for kneeling or lying down precede the commands for firing.

144. At the preparatory command for firing, the squad being in line standing, the rear rank men close, as explained for loading (Par. 77); and the cartridge box, if worn, is slipped to the hip and opened; it is closed and replaced after executing *close firing*.

Volley Firing.

145. The squad being in line facing the object to be fired upon, piece loaded: 1. *Fire by squad*, 2. *At (such an object)*, 3. *At (so many) yards*, 4. *Squad*, 5. *READY*, 6. *AIM*, 7. *FIRE*, 8. *LOAD*.

To fire another volley at the same objective with the same line of sight: 1. *Squad*, 2. *READY*, 3. *AIM*, 4. *FIRE*, 5. *LOAD*.

To fire another volley at a new objective and with a new line of sight: 1. *At (such an object)*, 2. *At (so many) yards*, 3. *Squad*, 4. *READY*, 5. *AIM*, 6. *FIRE*, 7. *LOAD*.

146. The objective and range will be indicated in the preparatory commands for all kinds of fire, as illustrated in the preceding examples.

If the objective be at a considerable angle to the front of the squad the instructor will change the front of the squad so as to face it.

The commands are given at sufficient intervals to allow them to be executed as already prescribed. The command *fire* is given when the pieces appear to be steady.

These rules are general.

To Cease Firing.

147. *CEASE FIRING*.

The men stop firing, draw cartridge or eject the empty shell, lower the sight leaf and take the order, either kneeling or the position kneeling, as the case may be. If standing, the rear rank men then step back and cover their file leaders.

148. The command *cease firing* is always used to stop the firing, and may be given at any time after the first preparatory command for firing, whether the firing has actually commenced or not. This rule is general.

149. 1. *CEASE FIRING*, 2. *LOAD*.

The firing will stop; such pieces are already loaded will be brought at once to the position of load; the others will be loaded.

This is intended to interrupt the firing, for the purpose of steady- ing the men, or to change to another method of firing.

To Fire at Will.

150. 1. *Fire at will*, 2. *At (such an object)*, 3. *At (so many) yards*, 4. *Squad*, 5. *READY*, 6. *COMENCE FIRING*.

At the command *fire*, each man independently of the other takes careful aim at the object, fires, loads and continues the fire as rapidly as is consistent with taking careful aim at each shot. The men should be taught to load rapidly and aim deliberately.

SCHOOL OF THE COMPANY.

151. The company is grouped into squads, under the leadership and immediate control of the non-commissioned officers, who are held responsible for discipline and order in camp and quarters, and are trained as leaders of squads for battle.

152. The four or squad consists of four files, a corporal and seven privates; the corporal is the squad leader.

153. The term *file* is used in the commands and explanations of the close order drill; the term *squad* in the extended order drill.

152. Two or three squads form a section under a sergeant as chief of section; the section is used in the extended order drill; it is a subdivision for movements in close order.

153. The company is divided into two platoons, each platoon into two sections.

Experienced privates are assigned as leaders of such squads as have no corporals. The squad leader is covered in the rear rank by a reliable man who acts as leader in his absence.

If any man of the front rank be absent he is replaced by his rear rank man.

If the company consist of an odd number of fours, the right platoon will be the stronger; if less than four sets of fours are present, the division into platoons is omitted; if a platoon consist of an odd number of fours the right section will be the stronger; if a platoon consist of less than four sets of fours, the division into sections is omitted.

The platoons and sections are numbered from right to left when in line, and from front to rear when in column; these designations change when, by facing about, the right becomes the left of the line, or the head becomes the rear of the column.

The squads are designated as right, left, or center squad or first (or such) section.

Posts of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Field Music.

154. The captain is two paces in front of the center of the company.

The first lieutenant is chief of the first platoon and is two paces in rear of its center.

The second lieutenant is chief of the second platoon and is two paces in rear of its center.

When there is a third lieutenant he is posted on the left of the second lieutenant.

The first sergeant is two paces in rear of second file from the right of the first platoon; he is not attached to a section.

The second sergeant is in the front rank on the right of the first platoon; he is right guide of this platoon and also of the company, and chief of the first section.

The third sergeant is in the front rank, on the left of the second platoon; he is left guide of this platoon, and also of the company, and chief of the second section.

The fourth sergeant is two paces in rear of the second file from the left of the first platoon; he is left guide of the first platoon, and chief of the third section.

The fifth sergeant is two paces in rear of the second file from the right of the second platoon; he is right guide of the second platoon, and chief of the third section.

The field music, when not united in the battalion, is in the line of file closers on the right of the first lieutenant and conforms to the movements of the file closers. On the march, when required to play, it marches at the head of the column.

Absent officers and non-commissioned officers are generally replaced by the next in rank or grade.

Instruction of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers.

155. The captain is responsible for the theoretical and practical instruction of his officers and non-commissioned officers. He requires them to study and recite these regulations so that they can explain thoroughly every movement before it is put into execution.

To Size the Company.

156. The men fall in a single rank; the first sergeant faces them to the right and arranges them according to height, tallest man in front; the corporals place themselves according to height, the tallest as the seventh man, the others as every eighth man in rear. The sergeant commands: 1. *In two ranks form company*, 2. *MARCH*.

At the command *march*, the man in front faces to the left, the second man places himself in the rear rank covering the man in front; the remaining men close and form alternately in the front and rear rank, each facing to the front upon arriving in his place.

The sergeant then commands: 1. *Count*, 2. *FOURS*.

Beginning on the right the men of each rank count one, two, three, four, and so on to the left. The sergeants do not count.

If the front rank consist of less than four men, they are assigned to other ranks and placed in the line of file closers, each in rear of the four to which assigned; if the left file consist of more than three and less than six men, the number is increased to six or seven by taking the required number of men from a like number of fours, at the rate of one from each, number three, or numbers two and three being blank files.

The company being sized, the fours habitually form in the same order.

To Form the Company.

157. In all formations under arms, the men fall in at the order *when under arms*.

At the sounding of the assembly, the first sergeant takes his position in front of where the center of the company is to be and facing it, makes the signal for assembly, or commands: *FALL IN*.

The second sergeant places himself facing to the front, where the right of the company is to rest, and at such a point that the center of the company will be six paces from him and opposite to the first sergeant; the four men in their proper places on the left of the second sergeant, superintended by the other sergeants, who then take their posts.

Fours of less than six men should be increased or broken up as provided for the left four (Par. 156).

The first sergeant brings the company to the right shoulder and calls the roll; each man answers "Here," and comes to the order he is called; the first sergeant brings his piece to the right in shoulder, faces about, salutes the captain, reports the result of the roll call, and without command takes his post, passing around the right flank.

The lieutenants take their posts and draw sword as soon as the first sergeant has reported.

This formation will be used in the field and as far as practicable in camp and garrison.

158. When the company becomes reduced in number and the fours broken up, the men fall in without regard to fours, but in their relative order, closing to the right so as to leave no blank files, the corporals placing themselves as number four, front rank. The sergeants superintend the formation and take their posts; the first sergeant calls the roll, has the company count fours, forms the left four according to Par. 156, and if the company be large enough, he divides it into platoons and sections; he then reports and takes his post as explained.

Alignments.

159. The alignments are executed as prescribed in the School of the Soldier.

</